AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Please amend Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 10, 12-14, 27, 28, 31, and 34 as indicated in the Listing of Claims.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for detecting the activity of a ~~compound~~ composition for inhibiting inflammation, comprising,

a) adding to a first cell culture a composition comprising a ~~compound~~ component with an unknown effect on inflammation;

b) adding a stimulatory agent for inducing production of a determinate of inflammation to the first cell culture and to a second cell culture;

c) measuring an amount respectively from the first cell culture and the second cell culture of ~~secreted~~ produced determinant of inflammation selected from ~~the group consisting of NF_K-B~~ NF-κB, IL1-β, IL-11, m-CSF, fibrinogen, TNF-α, adhesion molecules, selectins, CRP, V-CAM-1 , MCP-1, or PAI-1, the first and second cell cultures respectively being vascular and/or aortic endothelial cells; and

d) comparing the amount of the determinant from the first cell culture to the amount of determinant from the second cell culture to determine whether the component effects production of the determinate of inflammation and has activity for inhibiting inflammation.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein b) adding a stimulatory agent to the first cell culture precedes a) the adding of a composition with an unknown effect on inflammation to the first cell culture.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein a) adding a composition comprising a ~~compound~~ component with an unknown effect on inflammation to the first cell culture~~;~~ and b) adding a stimulatory agent to the first cell culture~~,~~ occur simultaneously.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the ~~compound~~ component is a chemical element, molecule, compound, mixture, emulsion, chemotherapeutic agent, pharmacological agent, hormone, antibody, growth factor, cellular factor, nucleic acid, protein peptide, peptidomimetic, nucleotide, carbohydrate, and combinations, fragments, analogs or derivatives of such entities.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the stimulatory agent is a glycated protein.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 5, wherein the glycated protein is G-HSA~~,~~ or AGE.

7. (Cancelled).

8. (Withdrawn) A composition, comprising a compound effective for treatment of inflammation, as determined by the method of Claim 1.

9. (Withdrawn) The composition of Claim 8 in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

10. (Currently Amended) A method for detecting compositions that affect glycated protein ~~accumulation~~, comprising,

a) adding to a first cell culture a composition comprising a ~~compound~~ component with an unknown effect on glycated protein ~~accumulation~~;

b) adding a glycated protein to the first cell culture and to a second cell culture;

c) measuring the amount respectively from the first cell culture and the second cell culture of ~~secreted~~ produced determinant of the glycated protein ~~accumulation~~ selected from ~~the group consisting of NF_K-B~~ NF-κB, IL1-β, IL-11, m-CSF, fibrinogen, ~~TNF-α~~ TNF-α, adhesion molecules, selectins, CRP, V-CAM-1, MCP- 1 or PAI-1, the first and second cell cultures respectively being vascular and/or aortic endothelial cells; and

d) comparing the amount of the determinant from the first cell culture with the amount of the determinant ~~from cells~~ from the second cell culture to determine whether the component has a stimulating effect, an inhibitory effect, a stabilizing effect, or no effect on glycated protein.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 10, wherein b) adding a glycated protein to a first cell culture precedes a) the adding of a composition with unknown effects on glycated protein production to cells.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 10, wherein a) adding a ~~compound~~ component with unknown effects on glycated protein production and b) adding a glycated protein to a first cell culture occur simultaneously.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 10, wherein the ~~compound~~ component is a chemical element, molecule, compound, mixture, emulsion, chemotherapeutic agent, pharmacological agent, hormone, antibody, growth factor, cellular factor, nucleic acid, protein peptide, peptidomimetic, nucleotide, carbohydrate, and combinations, fragments, analogs or derivatives of such entities.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 10, wherein the ~~stimulatory agent~~ glycated protein is G-HSA~~,~~ or AGE.

15. (Cancelled).

16. (Withdrawn) A composition that affects glycated protein accumulation as determined by the method of Claim 10.

17. (Withdrawn) The composition of Claim 16 in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

18. (Withdrawn) A method for treating inflammation, comprising, administering to a human or animal an effective amount of a composition comprising at least one compound capable of affecting inflammation, wherein the compound is determined by the method of Claim 1.

19. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 18, wherein the inflammation is glycated protein inflammation.

20. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 18, wherein the inflammation is vascular complications of diabetes, ventricular hypertrophy, atherosclerosis, angiopathy, myocarditis, nephritis, arthritis, glomerulonephritis, microangiopathies, renal insufficiency and Alzheimer's disease.

21. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 18, wherein inflammation is stimulated.

22. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 18, wherein inflammation is inhibited.

23. (Withdrawn) A method of treating inflammation, comprising administering to a human or animal an effective amount of a composition comprising at least one compound capable of affecting glycated protein accumulation, for the treatment of inflammation-induced diseases, wherein the effect on glycated protein accumulation is determined by:

a) adding to a first cell culture a composition comprising a compound with an unknown effect on glycated protein accumulation;

b) adding a stimulatory agent to the first cell culture and to a second cell culture;

c) measuring an amount of secreted determinant of inflammation selected from the group consisting of NF_K-, IL1-β, IL-11, m-CSF, fibrinogen, TNF-α, adhesion molecules, selectins, CRP, V-CAM-1, MCP-1, or PAI-1; and

d) comparing the amount of the determinant from the first cell culture to the amount of determinant from the second cell culture.

24. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 23 wherein the inflammation-induced diseases are vascular complications of diabetes ventricular hypertrophy, atherosclerosis, angiopathy, myocarditis, nephritis, arthritis glomerulonephritis, microangiopathies, renal insufficiency and Alzheimer's disease.

25. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 23, wherein the composition is administered in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

26. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 1, further comprising culturing the cells for a predetermined amount of time after adding the stimulatory agent.

27. (Currently Amended) A method for detecting compositions that affect inflammation, comprising,

a) adding to a first cell culture a composition comprising a ~~compound~~ component with an unknown effect on inflammation;

b) adding a stimulatory agent for inducing production of a determinate of inflammation to the first cell culture and a second cell culture;

c) measuring an amount respectively from the first cell culture and the second cell culture of ~~secreted~~ produced determinant of inflammation selected from ~~the group consisting of NF_K, IL1-β~~ NF-κB, IL1-β, IL-11, m-CSF, fibrinogen, TNF-α, adhesion molecules, selectins, CRP, V-CAM-1, MCP- 1 or PAI-1, the first and second cell cultures respectively being vascular and/or aortic endothelial cells; and

d) comparing the amount of the determinant from the first cell culture to the amount of determinant from the second cell culture to determine whether the compound has a stimulating effect, an inhibitory effect, a stabilizing effect, or no effect on inflammation.

28. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 27, wherein the ~~compound~~ component is a chemical element, molecule, compound, mixture, emulsion, chemotherapeutic agent, pharmacological agent, hormone, antibody, growth factor, cellular factor, nucleic acid, protein, peptide peptidomimetic, nucleotide, carbohydrate, and combinations, fragments, analogs or derivatives of such entities.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 27, wherein the inflammation is vascular complications of diabetes, ventricular hypertrophy, atherosclerosis angiopathy, myocarditis nephritis, arthritis, glomerulonephritis, microangiopathies, renal insufficiency and Alzheimer's disease.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 27, wherein the stimulatory agent is a glycated protein.

31. (Currently Amended) The stimulatory agent of Claim 30, wherein the glycated protein is G-HSA~~,~~ or AGE.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 27, wherein after adding the stimulatory agent, the cells are cultured for a predetermned amount of time.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 27, wherein b) adding a stimulating agent to the first cell culture precedes a) the adding of a composition with unknown effect on inflammation to the first cell culture.

34. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 27, wherein a) adding a composition comprising a compound with an unknown effect on inflammation to the first cell culture and b) adding a stimulating agent to the first cell culture~~,~~ occur simultaneously.